

Source 7
LL

FBIS 04*****

SYRIAN SOURCES DENY SOVIE.S KILLED IN DAMASCUS RAID

LONDON REUTER IN ENGLISH 0040 GMT 10 OCT 73 X

(BY MALEK HUSSEINI)

(TEXT) DAMASCUS, OCT. 9, REUTER-OFFICIAL SOURCES HERE TONIGHT DENIED THAT ANY RUSSIANS AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY OR THE SOVIET CULTURAL CENTER WERE KILLED DURING TODAY'S ISRAELI AIR ATTACK ON DAMASCUS.

THE SOURCES SAID THE CULTURAL CENTER HAD BEEN HIT AND THE WOMAN DIRECTOR, A SYRIAN, WAS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED, AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF SYRIAN STUDENTS ATTENDING A RUSSIAN LANGUAGE COURSE WERE ALSO WOUNDED.

JOURNALISTS WHO TOURED THE CAPITAL SAID THAT SOVIET EMBASSY WAS UNDAMAGED. IT STANDS IN THE EASTERN PART OF THE CITY WHILE THE ISRAELI AIR RAID WAS IN THE WEST.

THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE CONFIRMATION OF A YUGOSLAV RADIO REPORT THAT THE POLISH AMBASSADOR WAS SLIGHTLY INJURED IN THE RAID OBSERVERS HERE SAID THE POLISH EMBASSY WAS ALSO IN THE EASTERN PART OF DAMASCUS AND WAS UNDAMAGED.

A SYRIAN MILITARY SPOKESMAN SAID A FORMATION OF ISRAELI PLANES PENETRATED SYRIAN AIRSPACE AT MIDNIGHT. THE FORMATION TRIED TO INFILTRATE THE ZALAF AREA, BUT TURNED BACK AFTER BEING INTERCEPTED BY SYRIAN FIGHTERS.

10 OCT 0047Z DEH/MA*****

9/21472